

# Rushcliffe Ponds and Wetlands Grant

Wetlands are a traditional part of Rushcliffe's heritage, and they are also of great wildlife value. The council wants to encourage pond and wetland creation and restoration to enhance wildlife variety within Rushcliffe. This grant will help to secure their future as wildlife habitats and will provide opportunities for the public and schoolchildren to observe the associated wildlife.

## Threats to wetlands

Wetlands are under threat from development, fly-tipping and landfill, pumping water for industry and drinking water, drainage of surrounding land, pollution and neglect.

## Wetland management

Dead plant material naturally fills up wetlands. This eventually leads to them drying out and changing to scrub and then woodland. Without regular management, many wetlands will reduce in size and eventually disappear.

## Potential projects could include:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Ponds, riverside habitats and other wetlands</b>                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• creating new ponds</li><li>• renovating old sites</li><li>• planting native aquatic and marginal plants</li></ul> |
| <b>Reedbeds and bog creation</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• digging and creating new sites</li><li>• planting native aquatic and marginal plants</li></ul>                    |
| <b>Tree work and surgery</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• pollarding of riverside willows</li><li>• protective tree guards and fencing</li></ul>                            |
| <b>Creating buffer zones around wetland features (including springs)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fencing to exclude livestock</li></ul>  |
| <b>Surveys</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• surveys of wildlife associated with ponds or wetlands</li></ul>   |

## Advice

We advise you to get help to ensure your suggested project is acceptable. The following organisations can provide advice on how to develop your project:

### Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust

The Old Ragged School  
Brook Street  
Nottingham, NG1 1EA  
Tel: 0115 958 8242  
Email: [nottswt@cix.co.uk](mailto:nottswt@cix.co.uk)

**Nottinghamshire Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group**

Brackenhurst College

Southwell

Nottinghamshire, NG25 0QF

Tel: 01636 816 808

Email: [nottingham@fwag.org.uk](mailto:nottingham@fwag.org.uk)

## Rushcliffe Ponds and Wetlands Grant

The grant is available to any groups or individuals that are creating or restoring wetlands or ponds within Rushcliffe.

A higher rate of grant will be paid to sites that have frequent access by the public (this can include community allotments or schools).

Fishponds without wildlife interest and ponds in private gardens will not be supported. All grants are subject to an approval process.

Grants cannot be awarded retrospectively, or when the work is required as a condition of planning consent or legislation.

### Details.

- We will provide up to 50% of the costs for sites without public access.
- We will provide up to 75% of the costs for sites with open public access.
- Volunteer labour can be counted towards your contribution. Please contact us for details.
- Grants are available between £100 and £1000. This can be used for material and/or labour
- Agricultural holdings over 50 hectares in size must have at least an 'entry level' environmental stewardship agreement (or have applied for one) after May 2005.
- Applications will be approved by the Chairman of the Grants Advisory Group on the advice of the Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group.
- The Community Environment Officer (or other officers) of Rushcliffe Borough Council will have the right to inspect the work by prior arrangement.
- A signed agreement that the wetland will be maintained for at least 3 years is a requirement of the grant. The grant will need to be repaid if the pond is not maintained.
- The applicant must own the land or have an interest in the land, such that they can ensure that 3 years of management will be carried out.
- The design and materials, including any planting scheme (preferably using local native stock) to be used must be submitted with the application including a plan showing depths, angles and provision of ledges.

Grants will not be made for new wetlands or ponds which may damage the value of sites that are already important e.g. wildlife rich grasslands

We advise that that the suitability of your site be checked, considering the soil type and access to water.

Applications will be considered at Rushcliffe Nature Conservation Strategy Implementation Group meetings held approximately 4 times per year. Once your application has been approved you will receive an offer letter confirming the level of grant for which you are eligible. Final payment of the grant will usually be made once the quality of work has been inspected, and approved and on production of receipts for all the work.

**TO APPLY, RETURN THE ATTACHED APPLICATION FORM OR RING FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.**

### Contact:

Paul Phillips, Community Environment Officer  
Civic Centre,  
Pavilion Road,  
West Bridgford,  
Nottingham,



NG2 5FE

**Telephone:** 0115 914 8595

**Email:** [pphillips@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:pphillips@rushcliffe.gov.uk)

# APPLICATION FORM

## Rushcliffe Wildlife Ponds and Wetlands Grant

If you would like to take advantage of this grant, please fill in this application form and return to:

**Paul Phillips, Community Environment Officer**, Civic Centre, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5FE

**Name of person applying for a grant**

**Name of organisation**  
(if applicable)

**Position of person applying** (if applicable)

**Address for correspondence of person applying for grant**  
(including post code, daytime telephone numbers, email, etc)

**Please provide a brief description of your project and attach a plan of your land-holding and diagram of your proposal.** (For new ponds, please show depths, angles and provision of ledges)

What is the total area of your holding in hectares? (please tick)

less than 20ha   
20-50ha   
50ha+

Is your property a registered agricultural holding?

Yes   
No

Have you received a Pond and Wetland grant before?

Yes   
No

If Yes

What was the grant for?  
Which year did you receive it?

Are you currently involved in any Agri-Environment Schemes or other grant schemes?

Yes   
No   
If yes please provide details:

Where did you hear about this grants scheme?

Scheme location (if not at the above overleaf)

Grid reference of scheme location

What access is there for the members of the public?

What is the estimated total cost for the project?

£

**Please give a breakdown of the total cost of the project. Please make sure that VAT and professional fees are indicated separately.**  
(If you intend using voluntary labour as part of your contribution please contact us.)

Item	£

**Please provide the intended start date and end date for the work.**

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**If you wish to supply any additional information to support your application, please do so here:**

**Declaration and  
Signature of Applicant**

I confirm that I/we wish to apply for a grant to carry out the project described above and that we have the right to carry out this work.

I confirm that we will maintain the work for at least 3 years if a grant is provided and that I/we will repay the grant if this does not happen.

I confirm that an officer of the Borough Council will be able to inspect the work by prior arrangement.

**I certify that the information I have given is accurate to the best of my knowledge.**

Signature:

**Date of Application**